Renewal of Passport of Shri Ajitabh Bachchan

723. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri Ajitabh Bachchan had applied for renewal of his passport in April 1986, giving his address of residence as of Bombay, as reported in INDIA TODAY of 30th September, 1988; if so, whether it was verified and found to be correct;

(b) what was the place of employment and the name of the employer mentioned and whether they were also verified; and

(c) whether it is a fact that later on he had claimed that he was an NRI since 28th February, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K TEWARI): (a) Shri Ajitabh Bachchan applied for a passport on 2.5.1986 to the Passport Officer, Bombay and was issued a new passport on 3.6.1986 after checking necessary verification reports from the concerned local police authorities.

(b) The Passport application form does not require a private applicant to give name and address of his employer.

(c) During the course of proceedings under FERA, Shri Ajitabh Bachchan claimed that he had become a person resident outside India with effect from 28 February 1986.

Meeting for Abolition of Octroi

724. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 212 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 1988 and state:

(a) what was the outcome of the special meeting of Lt. Governors/Representatives of Union Territory Administrations regarding abolition of octroi which took place in February, 1988; and

(b) what follow-up action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The meeting held in February, 88 with L.Gs and other representatives of UT Admns reviewed the position with regard to steps being taken for abolition of system of octroi. The system prevalent in Andaman & Nicobar has been held to correspond to entry-tax having no irritants of Octroi. It was decided that the process may be correctly termed for information of all concerned. Representatives of Daman & Diu and Pondicherry Administrations agreed to examine the feasibility of adjustment in the rates of sales tax or levy of surcharge on sales tax, as an alternative source. Delhi Admn. undertook to expeditiously study various aspects of Entry Tax system to consider replacement of existing system of terminal tax.

In response to the intimations from UT Admns. about on-going examination, they have been addressed to complete the exercise and finalize proposals to replace the Octroi system.

Residency of Shri Ajitabh Bachchan in Switzerland

725. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are dates and period of Shri Ajitabh Bachchan's residency in Switzerland, as per his passport;

(b) whether he is holding a Swiss work permit and also a resident visa; if so, since when; and

(c) whether he has been accorded a NRI status since 28th February, 1986 as reported in INDIA TODAY dated the thirtieth September, 1988; if so, of which country visa he is holding since 28th